

Fall 2017 Project Update

[Meet the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes Team: Luca Pellegrini](#)

[Northwest Corridor Project Progress: Three Years of Construction](#)

[Training the NWC HEROs](#)

[Outreach Update: NWC in the Community](#)

[Major Mobility Investment Program: Investing In Georgia's Future](#)

[NWC by the Numbers](#)

[4th Annual NWC Fundraiser Benefiting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta](#)



Aerial view of I-75/I-285 interchange

Meet the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes Team: Luca Pellegrini



Georgia DOT Project Manager Stephen Lively and Luca Pellegrini, Northwest Corridor Roadway Project Manager, at the I-75/I-575 interchange

Q. What makes the Northwest Corridor project unique from other projects you have worked on?

A. What strikes one about this project is the scale and the logistics that are required because of that scale. Everything only comes in large quantities. I'm impressed by how many different activities are coordinated every day and every night, to always keep production moving on several different fronts. Coordination is the key,



Luca Pellegrini (left) and Stephen Lively (right) inspect bridge deck rebar in preparation for a concrete bridge deck pour.

and the only way to do it is by having a cohesive team that works together and communicates well.

Q. What do you like best about the project?

- A. The project staging is the aspect I find the most challenging and rewarding. Working within the existing I-75/I-575 corridor presents real challenges, which must be overcome through commitment to safety and through executing complex multi-phase staging plans. When we finish one stage and need to shift onto the next, that is always where all stakeholders of the project - Georgia DOT, Northwest Express Roadbuilders (NWER), our consultants and subcontractors - work together to make it happen.

Q. What is something you like to do or a hobby that you have when you are not working on the project?

- A. I like to visit Northern Georgia and the surrounding areas. Atlanta has great

access to a lot of outdoor areas, and it's important to take advantage of that while living here in the metro area. Fishing on the Chattahoochee followed by a visit to an up-and-coming local brewery would probably be a perfect day!

Q. What do you believe is the benefit the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes presents to the commuting public?

- A. The reversible express lanes do have the potential to truly improve the lives of commuters in metro Atlanta. Traffic patterns and time spent commuting are some of the major considerations that Georgians in and around Atlanta must plan their lives around. Supplying alternative solutions to the traveling public empowers all of us to consider a wider range of employment and residential options, and choose what is best for our lives.

Northwest Corridor Progress: Three Years of Construction

The Northwest Corridor project recently hit its three-year anniversary of construction work and is now 85% complete - with less than a year of construction left! Of the 39 bridges on the project, 21 are complete and 17 are under construction. The remaining bridges are expected to be completed by the end of this year.

Latest project stats:

- 97% of all bridge foundations are completed, including columns and deck spans.
- 15 out of 33 ramps are completed.
- 10.4 miles of new Express Lanes have been paved on I-75.

- Motorists traveling along I-75 southbound at the I-285 interchange, Windy Hill Road, Delk Road and South Marietta Road will continue to experience nighttime lane closures and occasional detours as construction crews complete deck pours and other bridge work.
- Beam setting over I-75 southbound lanes was completed mid-October.
- A new I-75 exit ramp traffic shift to South Marietta Parkway is scheduled before the end of the year.

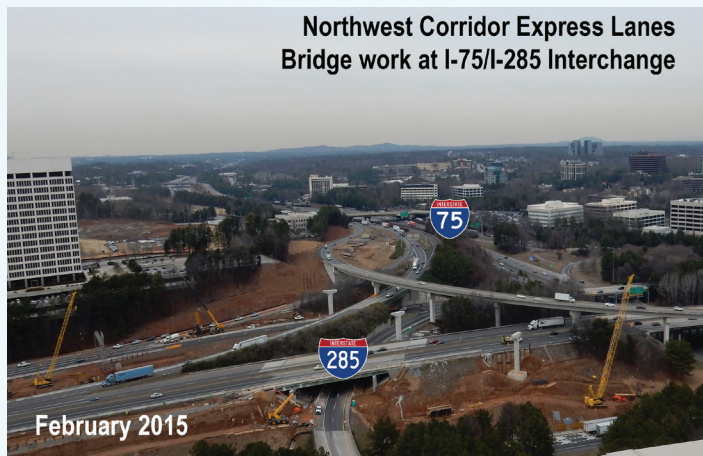


Over the past year, nighttime lane closures or detours near I-75 and Delk Road allowed for tremendous progress on the Delk Road Bridge, depicted above.



This before/after photo above shows the largest land bridge in the state of Georgia. Located at the I-75 and Canton Road Connector interchange, this bridge was the focal point of construction for the first two years of the project.

Northwest Corridor Express Lanes Bridge work at I-75/I-285 Interchange



Extensive bridgework has been completed on the I-75/I-285 interchange since February of last year.

Training the NWC HEROs

Recently the NWC Team created an on-site training video for Georgia DOT HERO Master Operators and other Emergency Responders. The GDOT HERO Master Operators will patrol and monitor the NWC Express Lanes when they are open to traffic next summer. A drone was used to video how to operate the Emergency Access Gates (EAG) - a critical part of ensuring timely incident response within the Express Lanes system. With so many

responders to train, this new video is helping our Incident Management Working Group spread information faster and more efficiently, by reducing the number of on-site trainings. The EAG training was coordinated with HERO Master Operators, Woodstock Police, and Woodstock Fire Department personnel. The video will prove vital to future incident management planning for the NWC Project.



Pictured above: We're using a drone to film a new training video for NWC Express Lanes First Responders and HERO Operators at an I-575 Emergency Access Gate.

Outreach Update: NWC in the Community

NWC project staff were out in full force at several recent local festivals, including the Kennesaw Pigs and Peaches Festival in August, the Marietta Streetfest and the Canton Riverfest in September, and the HarvestFest in Marietta and Holly Springs Autumn Fest in October. Thanks to everyone who stopped by and asked

questions - we talked to well over 1000 people! Many have asked how to get a Peach Pass. [Click here to learn how!](#) It is exciting to receive positive feedback from the public and from those who intend to use lanes when they open next summer. Information on lane pricing will be available in 2018 - so stay tuned!



Georgia DOT Communications Manager, Jill Goldberg, and Georgia DOT Project Manager, Stephen Lively, share the latest construction stats with the Cherokee County Traffic Impact Management Team.



The Express Lanes team welcomed people to our booth at the Kennesaw Pigs and Peaches Festival.

Major Mobility Investment Program: Investing in Georgia's Future

Georgia DOT is advancing 11 Major Mobility Investment Program (MMIP) projects across the state that will yield a significant reduction in congestion along key freight and passenger corridors. Once the projects are completed, they will lead to a 5% reduction in delay and travel time savings in the year 2030.

The first of the projects is scheduled to begin construction in 2018. By 2026, all 11 project will be under contract. Four of the MMIP projects will expand the Georgia Express Lanes system, increasing travel options for drivers, transit riders and vanpools.

Learn more about MMIP at www.dot.ga.gov/MMIP.



3 Major Interchange Projects



4 Major Express Lanes Projects



3 Major Interstate Widening Projects



1 Commercial Vehicle Lanes Project

NWC by the Numbers

30

Miles of New Reversible
Express Lanes



39

Bridges



6

New Express Lane
Interchanges on I-75



68

Retaining Walls

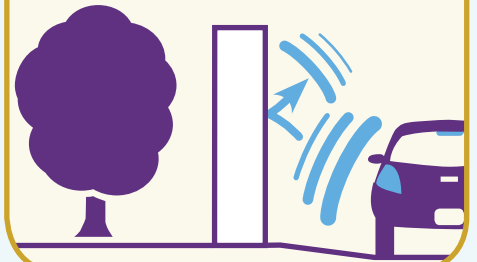


GEORGIA
Express Lanes
Northwest Corridor

By the
Numbers

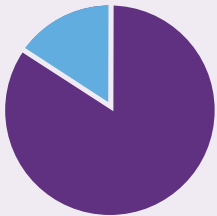
60

Sound Barriers



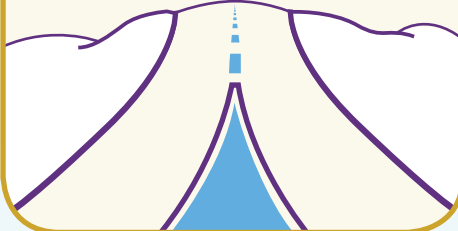
85

Percent complete
as of October 2017



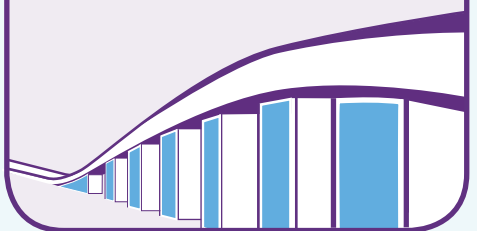
3

New Express Lane
Access Points on I-575



5,971

Feet - Georgia's
Longest Land Bridge



<http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL/NWC>

Georgia Department of Transportation

4th Annual NWC Fundraiser Benefiting Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Georgia DOT and its project partners continued their fundraising efforts at the fourth-annual fundraiser to benefit Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Since 2014, the Northwest Corridor project team and its partners have donated more than \$40,000 to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). The team's fourth-annual event, held on Friday, October 13th, continued the fun lunch-time tradition of t-shirt sales and raffle prizes donated by local businesses. Major event partners included the project's Design-Build-Finance contractor, NWER, along with consultants and contractors working on the NWC project. To learn more about the Better Roads Ahead Foundation, which managed the fundraiser event, please visit: www.betterroadsga.org.



Georgia DOT Project Manager, Stephen Lively, far right, thanks Michelle Bennett, from CHOA, for supporting the Better Roads Ahead Foundation. Also pictured from left; Russ Lauria, NWER Project Director and Kevin Oswandel, NWER Senior Project Manager.

Stay Connected!

To learn more about the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes project or receive regular construction and traffic interruption updates, please visit: www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL/NWC

Questions? Call us: 678-486-3767 | email: northwestcorridor@dot.ga.gov

For regular project updates visit: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/GEL>

Find Georgia DOT on Facebook and Twitter:

